

COVID-19

Thursday, May 28, 2020

SNOHOMISH COUNTY TO PROVIDE COVID-19 UPDATE

Tomorrow morning, Snohomish County will provide an update on the county's response to COVID-19, including public transit. The link to view the video when it is posted is at right.

SNOHOMISH COUNTY LEADERS PUSH TO ENTER PHASE 2 OF OPENING

Snohomish County leaders announced their intention for Snohomish County to be moved into Phase 2 of Governor Inslee's phased reopening plan.

SNOHOMISH COUNTY DAILY BRIEFING

Snohomish County to Provide COVID-19 Response Update

Tomorrow morning, Snohomish County Executive Dave Somers will be joined by Dr. Chris Spitters, the Health Officer for the Snohomish Health District, and Emmett Health, CEO, Community Transit to provide an update on the county's response to COVID-19, including public transit.

The video will be available at <https://www.snohd.org/495/COVID-19-General-Information>

Snohomish County Leaders Push to Enter Phase 2 of Opening

Action by Board of Health and County Council Necessary to Advance Proposal

EVERETT, Snohomish County, May 28, 2020 —Today, Snohomish County Executive Dave Somers, Board of Health Chair Stephanie Wright, and County Council Chair Nate Nehring jointly announced their intention for Snohomish County to be moved into Phase 2 of Governor Inslee's phased reopening plan. With Wednesday's approval of the final piece of the COVID-19 response plan by the County Council, Snohomish County now has all of the elements necessary to meet Phase II requirements for large counties.

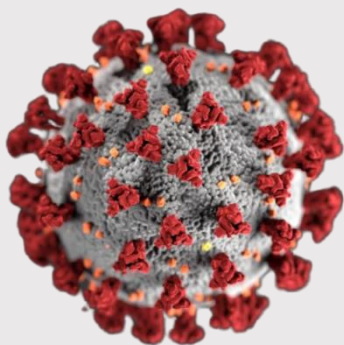
"Snohomish County residents have paid a heavy price from the COVID-19 pandemic," said Executive Somers. "We will respond to the pandemic with everything we have and recover as quickly as we can. We now must move forward with our request to enter Phase II and help our people safely get back to work."

"The Snohomish Health District and its partners have succeeded in preserving the health and safety of thousands in Snohomish County," said Chair Wright. "It is now time for us to move into Phase II and restart our economy. I will be proposing that the Board of Health consider a variance on Friday."

"It is critical that Snohomish County moves into Phase 2 so that we can begin to provide economic relief to our local businesses, workers, and families who are struggling," said County Council Chair Nehring. "I am proud to join my fellow county leaders in this joint proposal to move us in the right direction and support our local economy."

Due to the COVID-19 package approved Wednesday, Snohomish County now has adequate resources directed toward PPE, testing, contact tracing, and the isolation and the quarantine facility to meet the most important criteria for Phase II. Also, Snohomish County believes most hospitals currently have sufficient capacity to meet any potential surge, and the Health District intends to submit letters from each as part of any approved variance proposal. The rate of infection approaches the parameters set by the state, if subsets of irregular outbreaks, such as assisted living facilities, are taken into account, as the CDC allows. The decision to apply for a variance will need to be approved by the Snohomish Health District Board of Health and the Snohomish County Council. Both have called for emergency special meetings on Friday in order to consider this proposal, and if approved, the package, with a letter from the Executive, will be submitted by the Snohomish Health District to the Washington Secretary of Health for consideration.

If Snohomish County is allowed to move to Phase II and beyond, it will be important to avoid a spike in infections and the likelihood of reverting back



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NEW CLAIMS FOR UNEMPLOYMENT BENEFITS IN SNOHOMISH COUNTY DOWN 62% FROM THE WEEK BEFORE

Initial claims filed decreased from 15,028 to 5,675 down 62% from the week before. Information at right.

MARYSVILLE OPENS BUSINESS RENT RELIEF GRANT PROGRAM

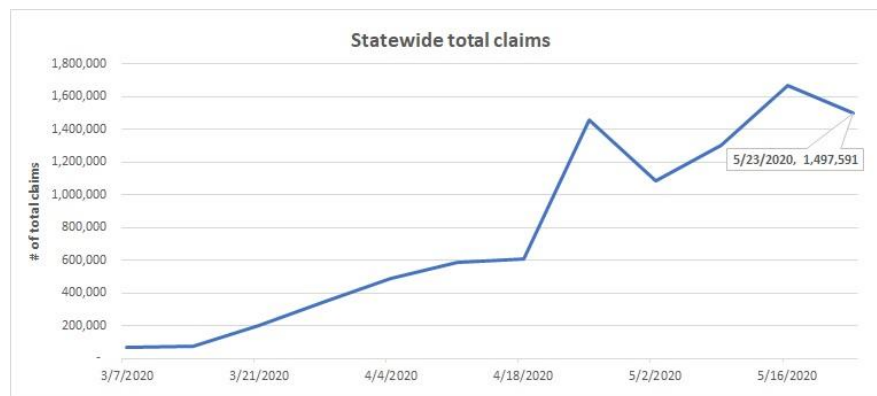
Applications due by June 14.
Information at right.

to Phase I. COVID-19 will be a threat for some time, but Snohomish County is now better prepared to manage the threat.

For more information please read Snohomish County's [news release](#).

New Claims for Unemployment Benefits in Snohomish County down 62% from the Week Before

During the week of May 17-23, there were 48,445 initial regular unemployment claims, down 65% from the prior week and 1,497,591 total claims for all unemployment benefit categories filed by Washingtonians, according to the Employment Security Department (ESD). **ESD believes the decrease was in large part due to significant fraud prevention measures that were put in place over the past two weeks.**



In addition, during the week of May 17-23, ESD paid out \$494.5 million for 424,995 individual claims.

Since the week ending March 7 when COVID-19 job losses began:

- A total of 1,130,519 distinct individuals have filed for unemployment benefits
- ESD has paid out nearly \$4.7 billion in benefits
- 807,071 individuals who have filed an initial claim have been paid

Snohomish County: Initial claims filed decreased from 15,028 to 5,675 down 62% from the week before. 48% of these new initial claims for unemployment were in the transportation equipment manufacturing and education services industries. See the dashboard [here](#).

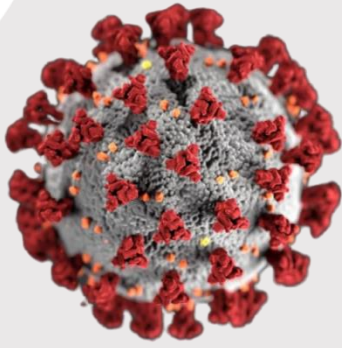
ESD will send out the next weekly new claims press release on Thursday, June 4 at 10 a.m. Pacific Time.

For more information please read ESD's [news release](#).

Marysville Opens Business Rent Relief Grant Program

\$250K CARES grants of up to \$4K each; apply by June 14

Marysville businesses who have suffered financially due to the COVID-19 pandemic are invited to apply for new Marysville CARES Business Rent Relief Grants approved by the City Council Tuesday evening. Application deadline is June 14.



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COMMUNITY LEADERS ACROSS THE STATE LAUNCH ALL IN WA, WITH OVERALL GOAL OF \$65M

All In WA is a coordinated statewide relief effort together to provide immediate critical and emergency support for workers and families most affected across Washington State, and to mobilize committed community and philanthropic groups to go All In for WA.

"Marysville businesses, the backbone of our economy, have been hard hit over the past few months," Mayor Jon Nehring said. "While these are not huge grants, we want to do what we can to support our local businesses through this very difficult time."

Rent relief grants of up to \$4,000 per applicant are available to businesses that meet these criteria:

- Located within Marysville city limits,
- No more than 25 employees,
- Negatively impacted by COVID-19,
- Current on business licenses, and
- In business since on or before Jan. 1, 2020.

Find more information and the application form at www.marysvillewa.gov/businessrentrelief.

The city will award up to a total of \$250,000 in federal CARES (Coronavirus Aid, Relief and Economic Security) Act funding distributed through the State of Washington.

Please visit Marysville's webpage to read the [news release](#).

Community Leaders Across the State Launch All In WA, with Overall Goal of \$65M

All In WA is a coordinated statewide relief effort powered by a coalition of public officials, companies, philanthropic leaders, community foundations, United Way organizations, community leaders, frontline nonprofits, and individuals. These groups are coming together to provide immediate critical and emergency support for workers and families most affected across Washington State, and to mobilize committed community and philanthropic groups to go All In for WA. At launch, the effort had already raised \$20 million toward a \$65 million goal to be met in coming months. Amazon founder and CEO Jeff Bezos will match individual donations under \$1 million to All In WA causes, up to a total of \$25 million.

Donations can be made to the All In WA Fund, an aggregate fund that will address funding gaps across the state, or directly to Community funds and Cause-specific funds across Washington, including those in need of housing assistance, small businesses, families and children, essential workers and more. Funds donated to the All In WA Fund will be distributed in the form of grants to nonprofit organizations across the state. A Fund Advisory Group has been established to oversee the grantmaking from the All In WA Fund.

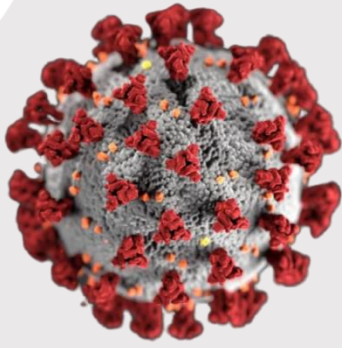
Efforts to raise funds include a virtual concert on June 10 featuring Pearl Jam, Macklemore, among others. All In WA flags to be raised across the state.

The All In WA: A Concert for COVID-19 Relief will stream on June 10, 2020 beginning at 7:00 p.m. local time on Amazon Music's Twitch channel (www.twitch.tv/amazonmusic) and through www.AllInWA.org and air statewide on KING 5 (NBC, Seattle), KONG (Independent, Seattle) KREM (CBS, Spokane), KSKN (CW, Spokane), KVEW/KAPP, and KGW Portland Subchannel 8.2 (Justice Network). Immediately following the live stream, a recording of the concert will be available on Prime Video. KEXP will be a radio media sponsor.

To contribute please visit www.allinWA.org.

For more information please read All In WA's [FAQ's](#) and [news release](#).





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FREE GROCERIES IN EVERETT THIS SATURDAY, MAY 30

Details for the distribution of free groceries this Saturday are at right.

EVCC ANNOUNCES THE CAMPUS WILL BEGIN SERVING AS A FOOD BANK DISTRIBUTION SITE AND WI-FI HOTSPOT

Everett Community College will be serving as a distribution location for the VOA Everett Food Bank for the next three months. EvCC Wi-Fi access is now available for drive-in use in parking lot E. Information at right.

Free Groceries in Everett this Saturday, May 30

Snohomish County DEM Retweeted

Snohomish County @snocounty

Neighbors helping neighbors. Free groceries in Everett this Saturday, May 30 at 12pm! Horizon Elementary School.

6:46 AM · May 27, 2020 · Twitter Web App

EvCC Announces the Campus will Begin Serving as a Food Bank Distribution Site and Wi-Fi Hotspot

Everett Community College (EvCC) will be serving as a distribution location for the Volunteers of America Everett Food Bank for the next three months.

Snohomish County families will be able to pick up food 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. on Wednesdays from EvCC [parking lot J](#) near the Early Learning Center. Distribution starts this Wednesday, June 3.

Students and employees are also welcome to pick up boxes of food. There are no identification or documentation requirements for VOA's food bank.

If you'd like to donate to the food bank, the best way to provide support is an online donation at voaaww.org/donate.

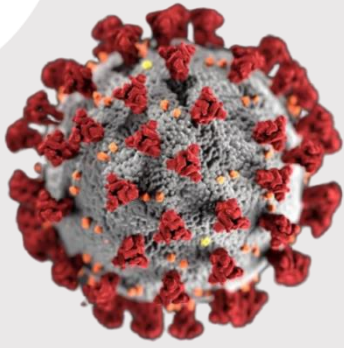
EvCC Food Pantry

EvCC also offers assistance to students and employees through its [Food Pantry](#). To schedule an appointment with the Food Pantry, email FoodPantry@everettcc.edu.

Drive-in Wi-Fi

Thanks to the hard work of EvCC's IT staff, EvCC Wi-Fi access is now available for drive-in use in the [parking lot E](#) near Whitehorse Hall at the college's main campus in Everett.





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ANGEL OF THE WINDS CASINO RESORT ANNOUNCES LATEST PHASED REOPENINGS

Additional amenities at Angel of the Winds Casino Resort will reopen tomorrow. See details at right.

GOV. INSLEE HOLDS AFTERNOON PRESS CONFERENCE

In a press conference today, Gov. Jay Inslee provided an update on the state's long term care COVID-19 testing plan and farmworker protections. Link to the conference at right.

INSLEE ANNOUNCES RELIGIOUS AND FAITH-BASED SERVICES GUIDANCE

Yesterday, Gov. Jay Inslee announced the state's plan for restarting religious and faith-based services for Phases 1 and 2. Details at right.

Students, faculty, staff, and the community are able to access college Wi-Fi for free, but the college is asking people to stay in their vehicles. There is no need to wear face coverings inside vehicles. College buildings remain closed to the public.

EvCC's Wi-Fi expansion is part of a statewide initiative to expand digital access, which includes more than 600 drive-in Wi-Fi hotspots statewide. You can find free Wi-Fi access throughout the state [on this map](#) (EvCC will be added to the map soon).

Angel of the Winds Casino Resort Announces Latest Phased Re-Openings

For more information on phased re-opening please visit Angel of the Winds Casino Resort's [webpage](#).



Angel Of The Winds Casino Resort
@aotwcasin

Strikerz Bowling, All Things Sports, and Whiskey Prime Steakhouse to re-open with limited capacity tomorrow at Angel Of The Winds Casino Resort! For the health and safety of our guests and Team Members additional cleaning measures will be in place.



11:24 AM · May 28, 2020 · Twitter Web App

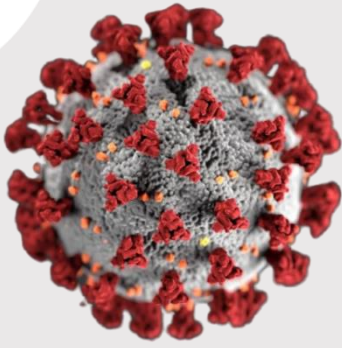
Gov. Inslee Holds Afternoon Press Conference

This afternoon, Gov. Jay Inslee held a press conference at the State Capitol to give an update on the state's long term care COVID-19 testing plan and farmworker protections.

Watch on TVW: <https://www.tvw.org/watch/?eventID=2020051095>.

Inslee Announces Religious and Faith-Based Services Guidance

Gov. Jay Inslee announced the state's [plan](#) for restarting religious and faith-based services for Phases 1 and 2 of Washington's "[Safe Start](#)" reopening plan.



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DOH ANNOUNCES NEW DEFINITION OF A CLOSE CONTACT

The Washington State Department of Health (DOH) updated the definition of a close contact to align with new CDC guidance.

THURSTON COUNTY IS THE MOST RECENT TO ANNOUNCE A FACE COVERING DIRECTIVE

Thurston County is the 4th county in the state to announce a cloth face covering directive. Links at right.

FIRST LAWSUIT ENFORCING GOVERNOR'S EMERGENCY PROCLAMATION RESULTS IN PROPERTY MANAGEMENT COMPANY PAYING NEARLY \$300,000 TO TENANTS

Attorney General Bob Ferguson announced that JRK Residential Group Inc. will pay nearly \$350,000 to resolve a lawsuit filed in April over the company's violations of the state's emergency eviction moratorium. Details at right.

Beginning today, religious and faith-based organizations in Phase 1 counties may host up to 100 people for outdoor services. In Phase 2, they can host up to 25% of their capacity or 50 individuals, whichever is less, as well as conduct in-home services of five people.

"As I have said before, this crisis may affect our ability to physically connect but it should not affect our power to strengthen our emotional connections," Inslee said during a press conference Wednesday. "I have been heartened to see the ways religious groups found to not only continue to connect, but to give back and to support their communities in this time of suffering and uncertainty."

The religious services covered include all worship services, religious study classes, religious ceremonies, religious holiday celebrations, weddings and funerals.

The guidance is available [here](#).

Read the rest of the story on the [governor's Medium page](#).

DOH Announces New Definition of a Close Contact

Yesterday, the Washington State Department of Health (DOH) updated the definition of a COVID-19 close contact to align with [new CDC guidance](#). The new guidance states that a close contact is defined as someone who was within six feet of someone with COVID-19 for at least 15 minutes. Previous guidance stated 10 minutes.

"Our guidance has changed over time as we learn more about COVID-19, and will continue to do so in the future," said State Health Officer Dr. Kathy Lofy. "This update doesn't change our recommendations for members of the public. We continue to urge people to maintain physical distance to protect themselves and others."

DOH will be working over the next few days to update its website and associated guidance documents.

Thurston County is the Most Recent to Announce a Face Covering Directive

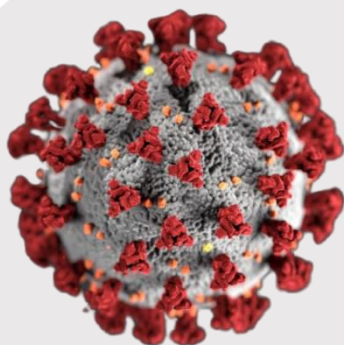
The following counties in our region have announced cloth face covering directives:

[King County](#)
[San Juan County](#)
[Thurston County](#)
[Whatcom County](#)

First Lawsuit Enforcing Governor's Emergency Proclamation Results in Property Management Company Paying Nearly \$300,000 to Tenants

Attorney General (AG) Bob Ferguson announced that Nevada-based JRK Residential Group Inc. will pay nearly \$350,000 — including almost \$300,000 directly to tenants in the form of refunds, payments and rent forgiveness — to resolve [a lawsuit Ferguson filed in April](#) over the company's violations of the state's emergency eviction moratorium. Ferguson's lawsuit was the first filed to enforce one of Gov. Jay Inslee's emergency proclamations.

The governor issued a March 18 proclamation establishing a temporary moratorium on evictions for the inability to pay rent. The proclamation specifically prohibits landlords from issuing Notices to Pay or Vacate during the proclamation's effective period.



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WA STATE'S TESTING CAPACITY AND AVAILABILITY IMPROVED THIS WEEK

The COVID-19 Risk Assessment Dashboard was updated yesterday, May 27. See the progress at right.

NEW DOH BLOG POST: YOU ARE NOT ALONE

May is Mental Health Awareness Month. The Washington State Department of Health (DOH) reminds the community that it is important for everyone to take care of their mental health.

"Residential landlords are prohibited from serving a notice of unlawful detainer for default payment of rent related to such property under RCW 59.12.030(3)," the proclamation reads.

For more information please read the AG's [news release](#).

WA State's Testing Capacity and Availability Improved this Week

For more information please review the [COVID-19 -Risk assessment dashboard](#).



Governor Jay Inslee ✓
@GovInslee

Thanks to an increase in supplies, our testing capacity and availability improved this week.

Case and contact investigation capacity also improved slightly. Last week we were able to reach 89% of those who tested positive within 24 hours.

More here: bit.ly/COVIDDials



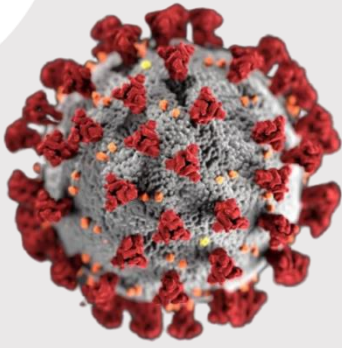
7:00 PM · May 27, 2020 · Twitter Web App

New DOH Blog Post: You Are Not Alone

The Washington State Department of Health (DOH) reminds the community that it is important for everyone to take care of their mental health.

May is Mental Health Awareness Month, and it is a time when we remember that [1 in 5 U.S. adults](#) experience mental illness each year. If you are one of these 20 percent of Americans, know you are not alone. Here are some ways to support your mental health:

- Take care of your body
- Take care of your brain
- Do something fun
- Connect with others
- Don't try to do everything today



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CHILD CARE, YOUTH DEVELOPMENT, AND SUMMER DAY CAMPS DURING THE COVID-19 OUTBREAK GUIDANCE NOW AVAILABLE

New guidance has been developed to help those providing child care and summer day camps to children and youth from multiple households. Details and link at right.

- Find support for your mental health

For more information please read DOH's [blog post](#).

Child Care, Youth Development, and Summer Day Camps During the COVID-19 Outbreak Guidance Now Available

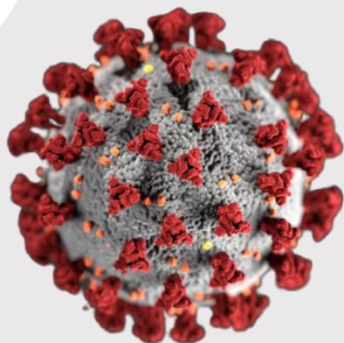
As Washington State progresses through the phases of reopening, more families will return to work. This means the availability of care and youth development opportunities are critical as we move through the summer. In order to reduce the risk of virus transmission between children, youth, and staff; businesses, non-profits, cities, counties, and other entities planning for summer 2020 should use this guidance for all programs serving groups of children and youth from multiple households. Authorization to open specific types of programs is governed by Governor Inslee's Safe Start Washington Recovery Plan and the ongoing guidance issued under the Plan. In keeping with the public health approach, it is anticipated that this guidance will be in effect through the summer months. Full guidance [here](#).

Important things to note:

- Any day camp the includes sports related activities must also following forthcoming guidance for youth sports.

Future guidance will cover:

- Overnight camps
- Youth sports and athletics (example: leagues, recreation teams, clubs)
- Activities included as part of K-12 basic education or special education programs.



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CONFIRMED AND PROBABLE CASES OF COVID-19 IN SNOHOMISH COUNTY

Please note: The statistics are also available on the [Snohomish Health District website](#).

ESSENTIAL LINKS AND PHONE NUMBERS FOR UP-TO-DATE INFORMATION

- [Snohomish Health District](#)
- [Snohomish County](#)
- [Snohomish County COVID-19 Response & Community Resource Hub](#)
- [Washington State](#)
- [Centers for Disease Control and Prevention](#)
- Snohomish County COVID-19 Phone Line: **425-388-3944**
- Washington State COVID-19 Hotline: Call **1-800-525-0127** or text **211-211** for help. For information to be texted to you, text **Coronavirus** to **211-211**.

Confirmed and Probable Cases of COVID-19 in Snohomish County (as of May 28, 2020)

Case Count	Last Updated: 1:20 p.m.
Confirmed	2,948
Probable	376
Deceased	148

Jurisdiction	Last Updated: 1:20 p.m.
Arlington	128 (112 recovered)
Bothell*	219 (175 recovered)
Brier	19 (19 recovered)
Darrington	<5 (<5 recovered)
Edmonds	339 (283 recovered)
Everett	981 (734 recovered)
Gold Bar	<5 (<5 recovered)
Granite Falls	29 (21 recovered)
Index	0
Lake Stevens	121 (106 recovered)
Lynnwood	621 (508 recovered)
Marysville	248 (205 recovered)
Mill Creek	53 (42 recovered)
Monroe	82 (67 recovered)
Mountlake Terrace	111 (93 recovered)
Mukilteo	59 (55 recovered)
Snohomish	155 (136 recovered)
Stanwood	101 (86 recovered)
Sultan	8 (8 recovered)
Tulalip	22 (17 recovered)
Unknown/Other	<5 (<5 recovered)
Woodinville*	12 (11 recovered)
Woodway	8 (8 recovered)

Numbers less than 5 are suppressed to protect medical privacy. Unknown includes cases still under investigation. *Counts are for portions in Snohomish County only.